

and *squamosa* in *Patagioenas*. Following Todd, and we think rightly, the Ground Dove of the Southern States is called *Chæmepelia passerina passerina*, while the Bermuda form is regarded as identical with *C. p. bahamensis*. *Melopelia asiatica trudeaui* Aud. appears as *M. a. mearnsi* Ridgw., since Mr. Ridgway considers Audubon's description and plate to represent the eastern form. Audubon's type is in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (see Cat. Types in Colln. Phila. Acad. Proc. A. N. S. Phila. 1899) and proves, as Mr. Ridgway suggests, to be true *asiatica*.

The type of *Psittacula lineola* Cassin is also in this collection, as recorded in the same paper, yet Mr. Ridgway quotes a letter from Prof. Heilprin, written over thirty years ago, to the effect that it had disappeared.

In a work of such proportions however, it is inevitable that some publications are overlooked and the above facts are offered not in a spirit of criticism but to supplement the history of these cases.

All ornithologists will congratulate themselves as well as Mr. Ridgway upon the appearance of Part VII and will earnestly hope that he may be able to push the remaining parts to an early completion. The families still to be considered, while they contain, as a rule, fewer species and races, have received less critical study than those which have gone before and it is therefore greatly to be desired that we should have the benefit of Mr. Ridgway's careful treatment in them as well as in the Passerine and Picarian groups.—W. S.

Todd's 'Birds of the Isle of Pines.'¹—Mr. Todd's latest contribution to neotropical ornithological literature is an admirable monograph of the birds of the Isle of Pines. The work is based primarily upon a collection of 842 skins obtained by Mr. Gustav A. Link of the taxidermic force of the Carnegie Museum during a residence of a year on the island, in 1912 and 1913. Much additional material was examined, however, and the literature exhaustively studied, so that practically all that is known of the bird life of the island is incorporated in this paper.

Besides the annotated list which covers 142 species, there is an outline of the Geography and Physiography of the Isle of Pines and notes on 'Climate'; 'Previous Work'; 'Seasonal Occurrence'; 'Faunal Affinities' and 'List of Localities,' as well as several half tone plates of scenery and a map.

The affinities of the fauna are naturally with that of Cuba. In fact of 126 species breeding in western Cuba, 85 are found also on the Isle of Pines, while eight others are represented there by closely related forms, only one of which is regarded by Mr. Todd as sufficiently distinct to warrant specific rank.

¹ The Birds of the Isle of Pines. By W. E. Clyde Todd. Ann. Carnegie Mus., Vol. X. Nos. 1-2, 1916. pp. 146-296, pl. XXII-XXVII. January 31, 1916 [received, March 6, 1916].

The annotated list follows the classification set forth in Mr. Ridgway's 'Birds of North and Middle America.' Under each species is a full bibliography for the Isle of Pines, to which, in the reviewer's opinion, might have been added a reference to the original publication of the name employed, which is usually of great assistance to those using the paper. There follows a discussion of the occurrence and habits of each species on the island, and of its systematic status.

We find described as new *Amazona leucocephala palmarum* (p. 228), Isle of Pines; *Virco gundlachi orientalis* (p. 256) Guantánamo, Cuba; and *Holoquiscalus caymanensis dispar* (p. 276), Isle of Pines,— the last being retained on an erratum insert *Q. c. caribæus, dispar* proving untenable. The species and subspecies of *Holoquiscalus* and the races of *Jacana spinosa* are considered at length and reasons are set forth for the rejection of *Podilymbus podiceps antillarum* Bangs and *Agelaius subniger* Bangs, as well as the races of *Squatarola squatarola* recently proposed by Thayer and Bangs, and the West Indian races of the Green Heron proposed by Oberholser. As Mr. Todd is confessedly not following the A. O. U. Check-List where the "latest and best authorities" differ from it, attention might be called to the fact that by Opinion 62 of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (March, 1914) the genera *Herodias* and *Urubitinga* become untenable, being synonyms respectively of *Egretta* and *Morphnus*.

Mr. Todd's careful study of the material before him brings out many interesting points, among others the fact that *Sturnella magna hippocrepis* is nearest to *S. m. argutula* and not to *S. neglecta* as stated by Ridgway, while *Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis* is the form occurring on the Isle of Pines in spite of Prof. Cooke's reference of all West Indian records to typical *noveboracensis*.

The bibliography comprises 64 titles of which 42 are of articles by A. C. Read published in newspapers, 'The Oölogist,' and 'Bird Lore's' Christmas lists. Much space in Mr. Todd's list is taken up with discrediting or rejecting records of Mr. Read, which seem to be almost entirely based upon sight or upon specimens shot but not preserved. It would seem that this represents a waste of time and energy as the records which are accepted as probable are severely discounted by the obvious inaccuracy of the others. Would it not be best to ignore such publications absolutely as the surest way to discourage them in future? This however detracts in no way from Mr. Todd's admirable paper which will stand as authority on the birds of the Isle of Pines for many years to come.— W. S.

Wetmore's 'Birds of Porto Rico.'¹— This notable paper is the first comprehensive work on the food habits of neotropical birds, besides being a handy popular list of the birds of Porto Rico. From both aspects it is most welcome, not only to residents of the island but to others as well.

¹ Birds of Porto Rico. By Alex Wetmore. U. S. Dept. Agr. Bull. No. 326. pp. 1-140, pl. I-X. March 24, 1916.